

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended): A method of storing information configured to be used for a plurality of communication protocols to extract status information related to a monitored device among distinct devices communicatively coupled to a network, comprising:

retrieving, from a ~~first memory~~first digital storage unit, support information containing parameters for extracting the status information using the plurality of communication protocols and relative priority data associated with the status information, wherein the relative priority data indicates, for each of the plurality of communication protocols, a relative level of detail of the status information to be extracted from the monitored device;

storing, in a ~~second memory~~second digital storage unit, the information obtained from the ~~first memory~~first digital storage unit for accessing the device using the plurality of communication protocols;

selecting a communication protocol among the plurality of communication protocols;

determining that the relative priority data corresponding to the selected communication protocol and the status information is higher than another relative priority data corresponding to another communication protocol and the status information;

accessing the device using the selected communication protocol;

receiving data from the monitored device; and

using the information stored in the ~~second memory~~second digital storage unit to extract the status information from the received data,

wherein the ~~second memory~~second digital storage unit has a data structure with the parameters.

2. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the information for extracting the status information using the plurality of communication protocols is stored in the ~~second memory~~second digital storage unit in protocol-dependent data structures.

3. (Cancelled).

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Cancelled).

6. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the retrieving step comprises:

retrieving, from the ~~first memory~~first digital storage unit, at least one of a web page address, a keyword, and a relative location for accessing the device using HTTP.

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the selecting step comprises:
selecting a communication protocol among SNMP, HTTP, and FTP.

9. (Currently Amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the accessing step comprises:

transmitting to the device, information stored in the respective ~~second memory~~second digital storage unit necessary to access the device using the selected communication protocol.

10. (Original): The method of claim 9, wherein the accessing step comprises:

receiving, by the device, the transmitted information; and
processing, by the device, the received information.

11 (Currently Amended): A system for storing information configured to be used for a plurality of communication protocols to extract status information related to a monitored device among distinct devices communicatively coupled to a network, comprising:

means for retrieving, from a ~~first memory~~first digital storage unit, support information containing parameters for extracting the status information using the plurality of communication protocols and relative priority data associated with the status information, wherein the relative priority data indicates, for each of the plurality of communication protocols, a relative level of detail of the status information to be extracted from the monitored device;

means for storing, in a ~~second memory~~second digital storage unit, the information obtained from the ~~first memory~~first digital storage unit for accessing the device using the plurality of communication protocols;

means for selecting a communication protocol among the plurality of communication protocols;

means for determining that the relative priority data corresponding to the selected communication protocol and the status information is higher than another relative priority data corresponding to another communication protocol and the status information;

means for accessing the device using the selected communication protocol;

means for receiving data from the monitored device; and

means for using the information stored in the ~~second memory~~second digital storage unit to extract the status information,

wherein the ~~the second memory~~second digital storage unit has a data structure with the parameters.

12. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 11, wherein the information for extracting the status information using the plurality of communication protocols is stored in the ~~second memory~~second digital storage unit in protocol-dependent data structures.

13. (Cancelled).

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Cancelled).

16. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 11, wherein the means for retrieving comprises:

means for retrieving, from the ~~first memory~~first digital storage unit, at least one of a web page address, a keyword, and a relative location for accessing the device using HTTP.

17. (Cancelled).

18. (Original): The system of claim 11, wherein the means for selecting comprises:
means for selecting a communication protocol among SNMP, HTTP, and FTP.

19. (Currently Amended): The system of claim 11, wherein the means for accessing comprises:

means for transmitting to the device, information stored in the respective ~~second memory~~second digital storage unit necessary to access the device using the selected communication protocol.

20. (Original): The system of claim 19, wherein the means for accessing comprises:
means for receiving, by the device, the transmitted information; and
means for processing, by the device, the received information.

21 (Currently Amended): A computer program product having a computer usable medium for storing information configured to be used for a plurality of communication protocols to extract status information related to a monitored device among distinct devices communicatively coupled to a network, comprising:

instructions for retrieving, from a ~~first memory~~first digital storage unit, support information containing parameters for extracting the status information using the plurality of communication protocols and relative priority data associated with the status information, wherein the relative priority data indicates, for each of the plurality of communication protocols, a relative level of detail of the status information to be extracted from the monitored device;

instructions for storing, in a ~~second memory~~second digital storage unit, the information obtained from the ~~first memory~~first digital storage unit for accessing the device using the plurality of communication protocols;

instructions for selecting a communication protocol among the plurality of communication protocols;

instructions for accessing the device using the selected communication protocol;

instructions for determining that the relative priority data corresponding to the selected communication protocol and the status information is higher than another relative priority data corresponding to another communication protocol and the status information;

~~means~~ instructions for receiving data from the monitored device; and

~~means~~ instructions for using the information stored in the ~~second memory~~second
digital storage unit to extract the status information,

wherein the ~~second memory~~second digital storage unit has a data structure with the
parameters.

22. (Currently Amended): The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the
information for extracting the status information using the plurality of communication
protocols is stored in the ~~second memory~~second digital storage unit in protocol-dependent
data structures.

23. (Cancelled).

24. (Cancelled).

25. (Cancelled).

26. (Currently Amended): The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the
instructions for retrieving comprise:

instructions for retrieving, from the ~~first memory~~first digital storage unit, at least one
of a web page address, a keyword, and a relative location for accessing the device using
HTTP.

27. (Cancelled).

28. (Original): The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the instructions for selecting comprise:

instructions for selecting a communication protocol among SNMP, HTTP, and FTP.

29. (Currently Amended): The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the instructions for accessing comprise:

instructions for transmitting to the device, information stored in the respective ~~second~~ memorysecond digital storage unit necessary to access the device using the selected communication protocol.

30. (Original): The computer program product of claim 29, wherein the instructions for accessing comprise:

instructions for receiving, by the device, the transmitted information; and

instructions for processing, by the device, the received information.